

Section 862—Wood Posts And Bracing

862.1 General Description

This section includes the requirements for wood fence posts and bracing, and wood sign posts.

862.1.01 Related References

A. Standard Specifications

[Section 859—Guard Rail Components](#)

[Section 863—Preservative Treatment of Timber Products](#)

B. Referenced Documents

ASTM A 525M

[QPL 50](#)

862.2 Materials

862.2.01 Wood Fence Posts and Bracing

A. Requirements

1. Type

Use Southern Pine for wood posts and bracing. Use the dimensions specified on the Plans.

2. Physical Characteristics

Use posts and bracing that have the following characteristics:

- Be round or sawed, but all posts on a single Project shall be the same.
- Be cut from sound and solid trees and contain no unsound knots. Accept sound knots if the diameter of the knot does not exceed 1/3 of the diameter of the piece at the point where it occurs.
- Be free from decayed wood, rot, and red heart, and a ring shake and season checks that penetrate at any point more than 1/4 the diameter of the piece, or are greater than 1/4 in (6 mm) wide.
- Show at least four annual rings per 1 in (25 mm), and at least 1/3 summerwood unless using Southern Pine veneer cores.
- Have no short or reverse bends.

3. Draw a line from the center of the top to the center of the butt. The line shall not fall outside the body of the post, nor be more than 2 in (50 mm) from the geometric center of the post at any point.

4. The maximum allowable change in diameter of the post shall not exceed 1-1/2 in (38 mm) in 10 ft (3 m).

5. Accessories

Use metal caps to cover the tops of the posts. Use caps that are at least 0.008 in (0.20 mm) thick.

Use material that is aluminum or galvanized steel with 1.25 oz/ft² (380 g/m²) coating according to ASTM A 525M.

Use caps only when required by the Plans.

B. Fabrication

1. Peel all posts and bracing for their full length. Remove all bark and inner skin.

2. Trim knots close to the body of the post before treatment.

3. Saw all butts and tips square. For posts that will be driven, you may make the butt end pointed before treatment.

4. Seasoning and Preservative Treatment

Treat all posts according to the requirements of [Section 863](#).

C. Acceptance

Check [QPL 50](#) for pre-approved manufacturers that supply materials compliant with this Specification.

D. Materials Warranty

General Provisions 101 through 150.

862.2.02 Wood Sign Posts

A. Requirements

1. Unless otherwise specified, surface wood sign posts on all four sides to the dimensions specified.
 - a. Ensure wood sign posts meet the same quality requirements as wood guard rail posts in [Subsection 859.2.04, “Wood Guard Rail Posts and Offset Blocks.”](#)
 - b. Ensure posts do not vary from the specified length by more than ± 1 in (25 mm).
 - c. Trim both ends of the posts.
2. Accessories

Use metal caps to cover the tops of the posts. Use caps that are at least 0.008 in (0.20 mm) thick.

Use material that is aluminum or galvanized steel with 1.25 oz/ft² (380 g/m²) coating according to ASTM A 525M.

Use caps only when required by the Plans.

B. Fabrication

1. Seasoning and Preservative Treatment

Bore and frame posts before treating them. Treat the posts according to the requirements of [Section 863](#).

C. Acceptance

General Provisions 101 through 150.

D. Materials Warranty

General Provisions 101 through 150.